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January 6, 1955

Mr. Marshall Knappen  
Cosmos Club  
Washington 8, D.C.

Dear Mr. Knappen:

I hope that the enclosed may serve the purpose expressed in your letter of November 22, of explaining to college students the function of Central Intelligence in the formation of American foreign policy. You are right, of course, in assuming that we cannot answer all the questions that college students would be expected to ask. It is also true, as you have pointed out, that much material about Central Intelligence is available to you in official and completely reliable sources such as the National Security Act of 1947. The enclosed is written on the assumption that you will consult these sources, so that more detailed reference to them is not necessary here.

With reference to your remarks with regard to the articles in the Saturday Evening Post, we wish to make it clear that we neither control nor pass upon articles about the Agency, nor do we confirm the accuracy or dispute the inaccuracy of what may be written therein. On the rare occasions where we do make statements for the press, the authority therefor is clearly indicated. As of possible interest to you there is enclosed a copy of an interview with the Director of Central Intelligence published in U.S. News and World Report of March 19, 1954.

Please let me know if we may be of further service to you.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director